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6 Attorney for Lenders Protection Group  
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8 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
9 DISTRICT OF NEVADA  
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—ooOoo—

11 In Re:  
12 USA COMMERCIAL MORTGAGE  
COMPANY,  
13 Debtor.

Case Nos.:  
BK-S-06-10725-LBR  
BK-S-06-10726-LBR  
BK-S-06-10727-LBR  
BK-S-06-10728-LBR  
BK-S-06-10729-LBR

14 In Re:  
15 USA CAPITAL REALTY ADVISORS,  
LLC,  
16 Debtor.

JOINTLY ADMINISTERED  
Chapter 11

17 In Re:  
18 USA CAPITAL DIVERSIFIED TRUST  
DEED FUND, LLC,  
19 Debtor.

Hearing Date: December 19, 2006  
Hearing Time: 10:00 a.m.

20 In re:  
21 USA CAPITAL FIRST TRUST DEED  
FUND, LLC,  
22 Debtor.

**DECLARATION OF DONNA  
CANGELOSI IN SUPPORT OF THE  
LENDER PROTECTION GROUP'S  
OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF  
DEBTORS' THIRD AMENDED JOINT  
CHAPTER 11 PLAN OF  
REORGANIZATION AS IT APPLIES TO  
DEBTOR USA COMMERCIAL  
MORTGAGE COMPANY**

23 In re:  
24 USA SECURITIES, LLC,  
25 Debtor.

26 Affects:  
27 ☐ All Debtors  
28 ☒ USA Commercial Mortgage Company  
☐ USA Capital Realty Advisors, LLC  
☐ USA Capital Diversified Trust Deed Fund, LLC  
☐ USA Capital First Trust Deed Fund, LLC  
☐ USA Securities, LLC

1 I, DONNA CANGELOSI, being first duly sworn, do depose and say under the penalty of  
2 perjury:

3 1. I am a creditor in the USA Commercial Mortgage Company ("USACM") bankruptcy  
4 case (BK-S-06-10725-LBR) with claims classified as A-4 (General Unsecured Claims) and A-5  
5 (Direct Lender Compromise Claims), and a member of the First Trust Deed Fund classified as B-5,  
6 in Debtors' Third Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization filed herein on November 15,  
7 2006.

8 2. I have knowledge of and am competent to testify to the matters stated herein, except  
9 to those matters stated upon information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true.

10 3. I have no formal training or education as an attorney or other legal related profession.

11 4. When USACM first entered into bankruptcy, I found little or no information  
12 available. What I did find, was widespread panic from the investors. This caused particular stress  
13 for me because I personally introduced many people to the USA Capital group, having been an  
14 investor since some time in 2000. Upon the filing of the bankruptcy case, I worked with others to  
15 organize a meeting of investors in Reno, which approximately 100 people attended. A primary  
16 concern of investors at that meeting was whether they needed to hire an attorney to represent our  
17 interests. At that meeting, certain attendees introduced the law firm of Stutman, Treister, & Glatt  
18 ("STG") as possibly being able to provide the attendees some guidance.

19 5. Thereafter, I had numerous communications with Jeffrey H. Davidson, Esq., and  
20 subsequently Eve Karasic, Esq., of STG. I estimate that I had 75 such communications with  
21 attorneys from STG, via both email and telephone. Mr Davidson was kind enough to take the time  
22 to educate me on committee composition and responsibilities. He also informed me that bankruptcy  
23 was a court of equity and that what was accomplished for one applied to all. I was also informed  
24 a committee would be created to represent investor interests, and in theory, they would represent the  
25 interests of all investors. At this time, I had no idea that certain principal investments had been  
26 stolen or that there was an issue with what has been labeled prepaid interest. Many investors at the  
27 initial meeting asked if they could provide a proxy to nominate me as a committee member so that  
28 we would have some representation. In addition, an internet chat room was born out of this meeting,

1 as well as the concept of developing an email list for us to stay in contact.

2 6. Based on the foregoing, and particularly my communications with attorneys from  
3 STG, I, and other lenders, decided not to hire an attorney until we could learn why USACM was in  
4 bankruptcy, why we were involved the scope of the situation and our treatment.

5 7. I attended the hearings held in this case on May 3, 2006. At that hearing, I understood  
6 Mr. Tom Allison to testify that these cases were truly about the investors. I further understood him  
7 to promise that investor collections would not be used by the Debtors for their operations or  
8 otherwise, except to pay the Debtors the servicing fees and other amounts to which they are entitled  
9 under applicable agreements.

10 8. Also during the May 3, 2006 hearing, I learned for the first time that 60% of the loans  
11 in the Debtors' portfolio were not performing, while lenders/investors were paid interest on those  
12 loans (the "Prepaid Interest"). I was also shocked to learn for the first time that certain loans had  
13 been paid off without lenders receiving the return of their principal (the "Diverted Principal"). I  
14 understood Mr. Allison to testify that the two sums (Prepaid Interest and Diverted Principal)  
15 appeared to be very close. I left comforted that the Debtor recognized that those with stolen  
16 principal investments were the true creditors of the estates.

17 9. Also at the May 3, 2006 hearing, I understood the Court to indicate the need to  
18 conduct a full audit and resolve numerous issues regarding setoff rights.

19 10. In whole, I left the hearing believing and understanding the lenders were going to be  
20 well represented and at this point there was no need to hire an attorney. We were hopeful that one  
21 committee would be formed, representing the interest of all investors.

22 11. On May 12, 2006, I attended the Debtors' §341 meeting of creditors. There, I  
23 understood Mr. Allison to state he was not pursuing the recovery of non-performing interest from  
24 the investors. I further understood his goal to be the recovery of money from the parties who  
25 rightfully owe it – the borrowers. Also, prior to the §341 meeting I was informed by U.S. Trustee,  
26 Augie Landis, that despite the fact I had the proxies of approximately \$200,000,000 worth of lenders  
27 appointing me to the committee, I was not appointed to any committee because I had cross interests  
28 and the goal of the U.S. Trustee was to have committees composed solely of "pure" interests.

1           12.     I attended the hearings held in this case on May 18, 2006. At that hearing, it was my  
2 impression that the Court was very disturbed over having four (4) separate committees, particularly  
3 the expenses associated with this structure. I again left this hearing with the complete impressions  
4 that I was in good hands and my interests were being looked after by Mr. Allison and this Court.  
5 Thus, I saw no need to hire my own attorney.

6           13.     I attended the hearings held in this case on June 5, 2006, where I understood each  
7 committee attorney was appearing in their official capacity for the first time. There, this Court again  
8 made it clear she was concerned over expenses and did not want duplication of effort. Thus, I again  
9 left the hearing believing my interests were being protected and I did not need to hire my own  
10 attorney.

11           14.     I attended the hearings held in this case on June 15, 2006. I understood the attorneys  
12 for the Official Committee Of Executory Contract Holders Of USA Commercial Mortgage Company  
13 (the "Direct Lenders Committee"), which was appointed to look out for my interests as what has  
14 ultimately been classified as an A-5 claim holder (Direct Lender Compromise Claims), to explain  
15 they did not represent those direct lenders who have had their principal stolen and paid to others as  
16 interest on non performing loans. I understood the discussion to explain those with diverted  
17 principal had no representation. I further understood that this problem was appreciated by all  
18 involved and that those with stolen principal would be placed on a committee.

19           15.     On June 16, 2006, I began communications with U.S. Trustee, Augie Landis. I  
20 understood Mr. Landis to explain those with stolen principal were represented by the Unsecured  
21 Creditor committee. I believed this was a conflict as anyone with stolen principal had cross interests  
22 and this would undermine his intent of only having pure interest committees. I believed those with  
23 stolen principal could not fully be represented by the present Unsecured Committee members due  
24 to their probable investments in other direct loans or the funds. Mr. Landis stated he was examining  
25 the Unsecured Creditors Committee as to whether additional committee members with stolen  
26 principal should be added.

27           16.     I attended the hearings in this case on June 21, 2006. There, I learned additional  
28 committee members with Diverted Principal had not been added to the Unsecured Creditors

1 Committee. I met with Mr. Landis and again urged him of the conflict this could create.

2 17. At the June 21, 2006 hearing, I expressed my deep concern that the Direct Lenders  
3 Committee was not representing investors with Diverted Principal to Mr. Bill Bullard, committee  
4 chair. He told me he did not have diverted principal and did not care about those who did. In a  
5 heated exchange, Mr. Bullard challenged me to sue him if I wanted to collect my diverted principal.

6 18. While I was unhappy with the committee composition, I believed it would be nearly  
7 impossible to change the situation, even if I hired an attorney to pursue the issue. I understood this  
8 to be confirmed in conversations I had with STG attorneys.

9 19. Throughout the numerous hearings I attended, I always understood that any rights to  
10 setoff were being preserved. I also understood that any right I and others had to the recaptured  
11 Prepaid Interest were being preserved.

12 20. In late August, 2006, I reviewed this Court's August 24, 2006 Order (Docket # 1184),  
13 which I understood to protect me by requiring further Court order before USACM's could release  
14 Prepaid Interest it was recovering and segregating. My belief at that time was that the Debtors' plan  
15 of reorganization would return my representative contribution to the recaptured Prepaid Interest to  
16 compensate me for my representative claim to Diverted Principal.

17 21. In late September, 2006, I reviewed the Debtors' Joint Plan Of Reorganization (the  
18 "Original Plan") (Docket # 1310), which confirmed my understanding that there would be additional  
19 proceedings to determine the Debtors' right to retain and use the Prepaid Interest.

20 22. I was not involved in the formulation of, or negotiations behind, the Original Plan,  
21 or any amended plan filed thereafter. All versions of the plan were developed behind closed doors  
22 under strict confidentiality. In fact, the open line of communication I enjoyed with various  
23 committee members completely shut down as soon as plan formulation and negotiations began.

24 23. In November, 2006, I learned the Debtors had done a complete "180 degree turn" with  
25 regard to its position on the procedural requirements for their recovery of the Prepaid Interest. I  
26 learned the Debtors were proposing a plan that would simply take the Prepaid Interest, without any  
27 opportunity for me to defend against that taking or to assert claims I have to the Prepaid Interest,  
28 such as the setoff of my claims for Diverted Principal.

1           24. I have learned that on November 6, 2006, the Debtors filed their Second Amended  
2 Joint Plan Of Reorganization ("Second Amended Plan")(Docket # 1741). I never received a copy  
3 of the Second Amended Plan from the Debtors.

4           25. Thereafter, based on the sudden drastic change in the Debtors' position, I and many  
5 other investors collectively determined it would be necessary to consult an attorney regarding our  
6 rights and interests. In this regard, I arranged for a consultation with Mr. Alan R. Smith, Esq. on  
7 November 15, 2006, and I hired him shortly thereafter.

8           26. On November 15, 2006, the Debtors filed their Third Amended Joint Plan Of  
9 Reorganization (i.e. the "Plan"), which I obtained and reviewed on the Bankruptcy Management  
10 Corporation ("BMC") website on November 17, 2006. The Plan certainly confirmed what we had  
11 learned; that the Debtors were seeking to take the Prepaid Interest without having an opportunity to  
12 defend against that taking or to assert my claims to the Prepaid Interest funds.

13           27. Together with my copy of the Plan, I received ballots as both an A-4 (General  
14 Unsecured Claims) and A-5 (Direct Lender Compromise Claims) and B-5 claim holder. With my  
15 ballots, I received a *Notice of Non-Voting Status With Respect To Unimpaired Claims Deemed To*  
16 *Accept The Plan*" (the "Notice of Non-Voting Status"), a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit  
17 A. The Notice of Non-Voting Status informed me I had no right to vote on the Plan.

18           28. I believe, through my experience in this Bankruptcy Case, I have encountered a  
19 textbook example of a "*BAIT AND SWITCH*." I, and other lenders/creditors, were lulled into  
20 complacency believing our rights were being preserved and that our setoff rights would be  
21 recognized. We were further led to believe our interests were being protected by the committees  
22 and, thus, I, and others like me, did not hire an attorney to protect us. Then, suddenly, the Debtors  
23 sprung a Plan that directly contradicts all prior representations to lenders/creditors.

24           29. I believe there is a class of investors who have not been represented due to the  
25 committee composition and conflicts, being those lenders who have both: (a) received allegedly  
26 improper Prepaid Interest; and (b) have had the principal amount of certain investments stolen.

27           30. I do not consent to the so-called "compromise" with Direct Lenders proposed by the  
28 Plan. I believe all members of the LPG share this position.

1           31.     Prepetition, I entered into certain Loan Servicing Agreements with the Debtors. I  
2 believe some of those Agreements contain provision for servicing fees for up to 3% of the principal  
3 loan balance in some cases, while other, like mine, provide for a simple 1% servicing fee. However,  
4 my understanding from, and experience with, USACM was that they never would, and never actually  
5 did, enforce those provisions by collecting servicing fees directly to lenders. Rather, my  
6 understanding was that USACM would build the recovery of their servicing fees, if any, into the  
7 structure of the loan to be charged to the borrower. Since I became an investor in USACM in early  
8 2000, USACM has never collected a service fee from me, or, I believe, the approximately 762  
9 investors I communicate with, under the Loan Servicing Agreements.

10           32.     I acknowledge this case has been a painful process for all involved and that many  
11 people want to get this case to be done and over. I, too, would like to see this matter come to a close  
12 as soon as possible, preferably through a confirmed plan of reorganization that complies with the  
13 Bankruptcy Code. I understand everyone is concerned with the continued accrual of legal fees if this  
14 goes on. However, I believe the loss that I and other lenders will suffer if the presently proposed  
15 Plan is confirmed will pale in comparison to the fees that will be generated.

16           33.     Attached hereto as Exhibit B are true and correct copies of the loan statements,  
17 including my Investor History Report and an itemization of loan servicing fees, which I received  
18 from the Debtor.

19           34.     From the beginning of this case, I, and numerous other investors, began  
20 communicating with each other regarding this Bankruptcy Case.

21           35.     I understand that on November 6, 2006, the Debtors filed their Second Amended Plan  
22 Of Reorganization, which is substantially similar to the Plan presently before this Court. On  
23 approximately November 7, 2006, I obtained and reviewed a copy of the Second Amended Plan from  
24 the Bankruptcy Management Corporation ("BMC") website.

25           36.     In understand that on November 15, 2006, the Debtors filed their Third Amended  
26 Plan Of Reorganization. On approximately November 17, 2006, I obtained and reviewed a copy of  
27 the Third Amended Plan from the Bankruptcy Management Corporation ("BMC") website. I am  
28 informed and believe that most, if not all, of the other direct lenders I have contact with, also



1 obtained and reviewed a copy of the Third Amended Plan on or about November 17, 2006.

2 37. After I read and reviewed the Third Amended Plan, I drafted and sent a letter to  
3 fellow direct lenders I had previous contact with. At the time I sent the letter, I believed, and I still  
4 believe, that all parties had received and reviewed the Third Amended Plan. In fact, my letter  
5 specifically informed recipients that the Plan and Disclosure Statement were available for review on  
6 the BMC website. My letter referred them to the specific docket numbers where the documents  
7 could be found and reviewed.

8 I hereby swear under penalty of perjury that the assertions of this Declaration are true.

9 DATED: December 18, 2006

11 /s/ Donna Cangelosi  
DONNA CANGELOSI